

Under existing regulations, not more than 11,000 acres can be enclosed at any one time for the growth of timber, and Sir James Campbell estimates the area now actually under timber at about 14,500 acres.

HIGH MEADOW WOODS.

This estate is situated in the counties of Gloucester, Monmouth, and Hereford, and extends over 3,400 acres, all either old woods or plantations, and 60 or 80 acres let to tenants either as arable or meadow lands. The property was purchased under the authority of an Act of George the Third, which recites the advantages to be gained by the purchase in the quantity of thriving oak growing on the estate, its contiguity to the Forest of Dean, facilities for the transport of timber by water, &c. Some of the woods are particularly fine Nockalls, Marians, Mailest, and the view from Symond's Rock of the wooded banks of the Wye is most gratifying to the forester, as well as to the lover of the picturesque.

The estate, as already stated, is under the charge of the deputy surveyor of the Dean Forest, and I do not consider it necessary to enter into further details.

The property is, of course, freehold of the Crown, and there are no common or prescriptive rights.

The revenue derived for 1870-71, was 5,176*l.*, and the expenditure only amounted to 1,827*l.*, leaving the handsome profit of upwards of 3,000*l.* on as many acres.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT of the Total Acreage, Extent actually under Wood, Description of Timber, and Nature of the Rights of the Crown in each of the Royal Forests and Woodlands (compiled from a Return to the House of Commons in 1863).

Name of Forest or Woodland.	Acreage (measured or estimated).	Acreage under Wood.	Description of Trees.	Nature of Crown Rights.	Remarks.
New Forest	Acres. 65,000	Acres. 22,319	Oak and beech, with outside belts and clumps of Scotch fir and larch in the older plantations, and oak, Scotch fir, and larch in the younger plantations.	2,000 acres are freehold, of which 668 acres are let to tenants. In 63,000 acres the Crown has the right to the soil and timber, and of inclosing parts of such land not exceeding 16,000 acres at any one time, such inclosures to be thrown open when the trees are past danger of damage by cattle, and a like area inclosed for planting purposes.	In addition to the 65,000 acres there are 26,000 acres in the Forest the property of private individuals, with regard to which the Crown rights appear uncertain, if indeed any exist. The extent under timber has been considerably increased since 1863, and now amounts to at least 24,500 acres. There is a complete register of commoners and the rights to which they are entitled.

Name of Forest or Woodland.	Acreage (measured or estimated).	Acreage under	Description of Trees.	Nature of Crown Rights.	Remarks.
Dean Forest	Acres. • 22,870	Acres. 14,754	Oak, beech, and fir, with a little chestnut and walnut.	<p>592 acres are freehold, of which some 25 acres are let to tenants, and a considerable portion attached to Whitemead Park and the woodmen's cottages.</p> <p>The Crown has the right to the soil and timber in 19,000 acres, with power to inclose not exceeding 11,000 acres at any one time, such inclosures to be thrown open as in New Forest, and like areas enclosed for planting.</p> <p>The Crown's rights as to minerals and sub-strata are regulated by the Acts 1 & 2 Vict. and 24 & 25 Vict.</p> <p>3,278 acres are the property of private persons, and the Crown are not entitled to the timber nor to inclose and plant the land, but possess certain forestal rights.</p>	There is a complete register of free miners and owners of "Gales" in the Forest, but none of the commoners entitled to exercise forestal rights, nor has there been any inquiry into or definition of such rights and who are privileged to exercise them.

Abstract Statement of the Total Acreage, &c. in each of the Royal Forests and Woodlands—*continued.*

Name of Forest or Woodland.	Acreage (measured or estimated).	Acreage under Wood.	Description of Trees.	Nature of Crown Rights.	Remarks.
High Meadow -	Acres. 3,359	Acres. 3,359	Oak and fir - -	Freehold - - -	Purchased under the provisions of Act 57 Geo. 3., which recites the expediency of the purchase owing to the quantity of thriving oak, forest, &c. In addition to the 3,359 acres there are 60 to 80 acres belonging to the Crown let to tenants in various small holdings.
Alice Holt - -	2,039	2,039	Oak, with 100 acres larch and ash.	Freehold - - -	Planted under the provisions of Act 52 Geo. 3. Planting commenced in 1812 and finished in 1836.
Woolmer - -	2,808	1,235	Scotch fir, larch, and pine, with a little oak.	Freehold - - -	Planted under the provisions of Act 52 Geo. 3 as above. Planting commenced in 1813 and finished in 1836. 1,572 acres are unfit for the growth of timber.
Bere - -	1,456	1,456	Oak - - -	Freehold - - -	Planted under the provisions of Act 50 Geo. 3., passed in 1810. Planting commenced about 1812.
Parkhurst - -	1,160	1,160	Oak, larch, beech, chestnut, Scotch fir, and stone pine.	Freehold - - -	Planting commenced about 1814 under the provisions of Act 52 Geo. 3.

Name of Forest or Woodland.	Acreage (measured or estimated).	Acreage under Wood.	Description of Trees.	Nature of Crown Rights.	Remarks.
Delamere - -	Acres. • 4,022	Acres. 2,622	Oak, larch, and Scotch fir	Freehold - - -	All planted since 1817 under the directions of Act 52 Geo. 3. 1,400 acres have been let as farms.
Salcey - -	1,277	1,277	Oak - - -	Freehold - - -	Planted between 1832 and 1846 under the authority of Act 6 Geo. 4.
Hazleborough -	489	489	Oak - - -	Freehold - - -	Planted between 1830 and 1835 under the authority of Act 5 Geo. 4.
Chapwell - -	896	896	Chiefly larch, some Scotch pine, alder, and birch.	Freehold - - -	Planted between 1853 and 1859 under the authority of the Lords of the Treasury and the Commissioners of Woods, &c.
Epping - -	7,000	—	- - -	The Crown is not the owner of any woods or plantations in Epping Forest (so called), but is entitled to certain forestal rights. Those rights, over 4,000 acres have been sold.	This forest should really not appear as one of the Royal forests and woodlands, but I have exhibited it as it appears in the statement from which this is compiled.
Total acreage: -	112,376	51,606			